

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 1,~~ An apparatus for providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

a supporting member mounted to the first structure and second structure, the supporting member having positive stiffness with respect to a direction that differs from a support direction of the apparatus;

a first section having at least one magnetic member, the first section being coupled to the first structure; and

a second section having at least one magnetic member, the second section being coupled to the second structure; wherein

the first and second sections present negative stiffness in a lateral direction perpendicular to the support direction caused by magnetic force, thereby canceling at least a part of the positive stiffness of the supporting member, and wherein

the supporting member has a bellow that includes an airtight cavity, and the airtight cavity is pressurized, and

wherein

the first section has a first cylindrical magnetic member,

the second section has second, third, fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members, and

the first cylindrical magnetic member is provided within the second, third, fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein

each of the first, second and third cylindrical magnetic members includes a retentive magnetic material,

the first, second and third cylindrical magnetic members have a first, second and third direction of magnetic poles, respectively,

the first, second and third direction of magnetic poles are the same, and

each of the fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members includes a non-retentive magnetic material.

14-24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 14,~~ A method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

providing a supporting member mounted to the first structure and second structure, the supporting member having positive stiffness with respect to a direction that differs from a support direction of the apparatus;

coupling a first section to the first structure, the first section has at least one magnetic member; and

coupling a second section to the second structure, the second section has at least one magnetic member; wherein

the first and second sections present negative stiffness in a lateral direction perpendicular to the support direction caused by magnetic force, thereby canceling at least a part of the positive stiffness of the supporting member, and wherein

the supporting member has a bellow that includes an airtight cavity, and the airtight cavity is pressurized, and

wherein

the first section has a first cylindrical magnetic member,

the second section has second, third, fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members, and

the first cylindrical magnetic member is provided within the second, third, fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, wherein

each of the first, second and third cylindrical magnetic members includes a retentive magnetic material,

the first, second and third cylindrical magnetic members have a first, second and third direction of magnetic poles, respectively,

the first, second and third direction of magnetic poles are the same, and

each of the fourth and fifth cylindrical magnetic members includes a non-retentive magnetic material.

27-29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) ~~The lithography system of claim 29, further comprising~~

A lithography system comprising:

an illumination system that irradiates radiant energy;

a positioning apparatus that disposes a substrate on a path of the radiant energy; and

a system that provides support between a first structure and a second structure, the system including,

a supporting member mounted to the first structure and second structure, the supporting member having positive stiffness with respect to a first direction;

a first section having at least one magnetic member, the first section being coupled to the first structure;

a second section having at least one magnetic member, the second section being coupled to the second structure; and

at least one actuator, wherein

the first and second sections present negative stiffness in a lateral direction perpendicular to the support direction caused by magnetic force, thereby canceling at least a part of the positive stiffness of the supporting member, and wherein

the supporting member has a bellow that includes an airtight cavity, and the airtight cavity is pressurized, and

wherein a driving force of the actuator and a support force generated by the system lie on substantially the same axis.

31. (original) The lithography system of claim 30, wherein the support force generated by the system is substantially perpendicular to the first direction.

32-33. (canceled)